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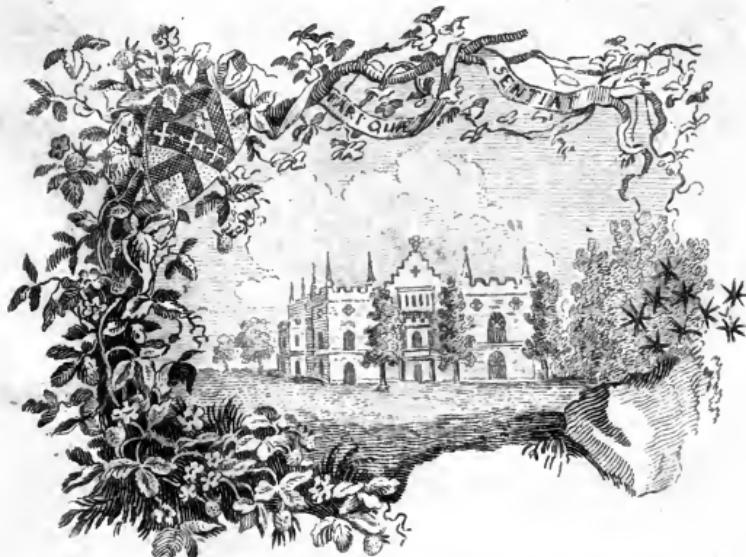
ACCOUNT
Sketches of History of
RUSSIA

AS IT WAS Travels.

IN THE YEAR 1710.

BY

CHARLES LORD WHITWORTH.



PRINTED AT STRAWBERRY-HILL.

M DCC LVIII.

Advertisement.

THE following short but curious account of the Russian Empire, as it began to emerge from barbarism in the year 1710, cannot but be acceptable to the public from the curiosity of the subject, and from the merit of the performance. Lord Molesworth's account of the Revolution in Denmark, which totally over-turned the constitution of that country

country, is one of our standard books. Lord Whitworth's little treatise will throw considerable lights upon the formation of the Muscovite power, and upon the plans of that extraordinary genius, Peter the Great. Each author shows what lasting benefits Embassadors and foreign Ministers might confer on mankind, beyond the temporary utility of negotiating and sending intelligence.

Our author, Charles Lord Whitworth, was son of Richard

Whitworth

Whitworth Esq.; of Blower-pipe in Staffordshire, who about the time of the Revolution had settled at Adbaston. He married Anne Moseley, niece of Sir Oswald Moseley of Cheshire, by whom he had six sons and a daughter. Charles; Richard, lieutenant-colonel of the Queen's own royal regiment of horse; Edward, captain of a man of war; Gerard, one of the chaplains to King George the First; John, captain of dragoons; Francis, surveyor-general of his Majesty's woods,

woods, and secretary of the island of Barbadoes, father of Charles Whitworth Esq; member in the present parliament for Minehead in Somersetshire; and Anne, married to Tracey Pauncefot Esq; of Lincolnshire.

Charles, the eldest son, was bred under that accomplished minister and poet, Mr. Stepney, and having attended him through several courts of Germany, was in the year 1702 appointed Resident at the Diet of Ratisbon. In 1704, He was named Envoy extraordinary to the court of

of Petersburgh, as He was sent Ambassador extraordinary thither on a more solemn and important occasion in 1710. M. de Matueof, the Czar's minister at London, had been arrested in the public street by two bailiffs, at the suit of some tradesmen to whom he was in debt. This affront had like to have been attended with very serious consequences. The Czar, who had been absolute enough to civilize savages, had no idea, could conceive none, of the privileges of a nation civilized in

in the only rational manner, by laws and liberties. He demanded immediate and severe punishment of the offenders : He demanded it of a Princess, whom he thought interested to assert the sacredness of the persons of Monarchs, even in their representatives ; and He demanded it with threats of wrecking his vengeance on all English merchants and subjects established in his dominions. In this light the menace was formidable----otherwise, happily the rights of a whole people

ple were more sacred *here* than the persons of foreign ministers. The Czar's memorials urged the Queen with the satisfaction which She had extorted herself, when only the boat and servants of the Earl of Manchester had been insulted at Venice. That State had broken through their fundamental laws to content the Queen of Great Britain. How noble a picture of government, when a Monarch that can force another nation to infringe it's constitution, dare not violate

late his own! One may imagine with what difficulties our Secretaries of State must have laboured through all the ambages of phrase in English, French, German and Russ, to explain to Muscovite ears and Muscovite understandings, the meaning of indictments, pleadings, precedents, juries and verdicts*; and how impatiently Peter must have listened to

* Mr. Dayrolles in his letter to the Russian Ambassador, March 10, 1705, gives him a particular account of the Trial before the Lord Chief Justice Holt.

Vide Mottley's Life of Peter I. vol. 2. p. 57.

promises

promises of a hearing next term ! With what astonishment must He have beheld a great Queen, engaging to endeavour to prevail on her Parliament to pass an act to prevent any such outrage for the future ! What honour does it reflect on the memory of that Princess to see her not blush to own to an arbitrary Emperor, that even to appease *him* She dared not put the meanest of her subjects to death uncondemned by law !

“ There are,” says she*, in one of her dispatches to him, “ in-

* *ibid.* p. 67.

“superable difficulties with re-
 spect to the ancient and fun-
 damental laws of the govern-
 ment of our people, which
 we fear do not permit so severe
 and rigorous a sentence to be
 given, as your Imperial Ma-
 jesty at first seemed to expect
 in this case: And we persuade
 our Self, that your Imperial
 Majesty, who are a Prince
 famous for clemency and for
 exact justice, will not require
 us, who are the guardian and
 protectress of the laws, to in-
 flict a punishment upon our
 subjects,

-e "subjects, which the law does
 -n not empower us to do."
 -n Words so venerable and heroic,
 -d that this broil ought to be-
 -e come History, and be exempted
 -f from the oblivion due to the
 -s silly squabbles of embassadors
 -b and their privileges. If Anne
 -d deserved praise for her conduct
 -i on this occasion, it reflects still
 -e greater glory on Peter, that this
 -f ferocious man *had* patience to
 -l listen to these details, and had
 -m moderation and justice enough
 -t to be persuaded by the reason
 -e of them.

Mr.

Mr. Whitworth had the honour of terminating this quarrel. In 1714, He was appointed Plenipotentiary to the Diet of Ausbourg and Ratilbon; in 1716, Envoy extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the King of Prussia. In 1717, Envoy extraordinary to the Hague. In 1719, He returned in his former character to Berlin; and in 1721, the late King rewarded his long services and fatigues, by creating him Baron Whitworth of Galway in the kingdom of Ireland, the preamble of his patent enumerating

merating many of his virtues and labours, being as follows :

CUM alii homines re aliâ clari inclytique sese Nobis commenda-
vaverint, haud minorem tamen vel sibimet gloriam acquirere, vel Regnis nostris utilitatem conferre eos existimamus, qui res nostras apud principes statusque exteris prudenter feliciterque adminis-
trant. Inter hosce quidem emi-
net plurimum tum longinquo usu atque exercitatione, tum solertia quadam singulari fidelis & dilec-
tus nobis Carolus Whitworth Ar-
miger.

miger. *Variis in aulis externis perfunctis muneribus sese antecessoribus nostris gloriose memoriæ, Gulielmo Tertio Regi, Reginæque Annæ perspectum impri- mis comprobatumque reddidit. In Comitiis Ratisbonensibus, in Aulâ Cœsareo-Germanicâ, atque apud Czarum Muscovia temporibus dif- ficillimis res maximi momenti sem- per cum laude tractavit, ac meritis suis eximiis summos honores rerum exterarum curatoribus tri- bui solitos, legati scilicet extraor- dinarii et plenipotentiarii charakte- rem consecutus est. Ita ornatum,*

ita

ita commendatum nos Eum accepi-
mus, ac proinde ejus operā in ar-
duis compluribus negociis tanto cum
nostro commodo tantoque omnium
plausu usi sumus, ut testimonio a-
liquo illustri ejus virtutes, inteme-
ratam præcipue fidem et constan-
tiam, remunerandas esse censueri-
mus; et cum Majestatem imperii
nostrī deceat, tum rebus tractandis
pondus aliquod adjiciat nobilitatis
splendor atque amplitudo, nos præ-
dictum Carolum Whitworth, quem
legati nostri extraordinarii ac ple-
nipotentiaii titulis insignivimus ad
tractatus pacis in congressu Bruns-

*vicensi proximo celebrandos, qui
in Aulā Berolinensi, atque apud
Ordines Generales Uniti Belgii,
plenā potentia res nostras procu-
rat, ad dignitatem gradumque
Baronis in Regno nostro Hiberniæ
promovendum esse statuimus: Sci-
atis igitur, &c.*

The next year his Lordship was entrusted with the affairs of Great Britain at the Congress of Cambray, in the character of Ambassador extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. He returned home in 1724, and died the next

next year at his house in Gerard-street, London. His body was interred in Westminster Abbey.

These short memorials, communicated to me by his family without any ostentation, are all I have been able to recover of a man so useful to his country ; who besides the following little piece, which must retrieve and preserve his character from oblivion, has left many volumes of state-letters and papers in the possession of his relations. One little anecdote of him I was told by the late Sir Luke Schaub, who

had it from himself: Lord Whitworth had had a personal intimacy with the famous Czarina Catherine, at a time when her favours were not purchased nor rewarded at so extravagant a rate as that of a diadem. When He had compromised the rupture between the court of England and the Czar, He was invited to a ball at court, and taken out to dance by the Czarina. As they began the minuet, She squeezed him by the hand, and said in a whisper, *Have you forgot little Kate?* It

It is to be lamented that so agreeable a writer as Lord Whitworth, has not left us more ample accounts of this memorable Woman. Even his portrait of her Lord is not detailed enough to satisfy our curiosity. How striking a picture might an author of genius form from the contrast exhibited to Europe by four extraordinary men at the same period ! Peter recalled that Image of the Founders of Empires, of whom we read with much satisfaction and much incredulity in ancient story. Charles the Twelfth, of those frantic Heroes of

of Poesy, of whom we read with perhaps more satisfaction and no credulity at all. Romulus and Achilles filled half our gazettes, while Lewis the Fourteenth was treading to Universal Monarchy with all the pomp and policy of these latter ages. William the Third was opposing this modern Xerxes with the same arts; and (with perhaps a little of Charles's jealousy) had the good fortune to have his quarrel confounded with that of Europe. While Peter tamed his savages, raised cities, invited arts, converted forests into fleets,

Charles

Charles was trying to recall the improvements of war to its first principle, brutal strength; fancying that the weight of the Turkish Empire was to be over-turned by a single arm, and that heroic obstinacy might be a counterpoize to gun-powder.

A Philosopher in these four men saw at once the great outlines of what the World had been, and of what it is.

Lord Whitworth's MS. was communicated to me by Richard Owen Cambridge Esq; having been purchased by him in a very curious

curious set of books, collected by Monsieur Zolman, Secretary to the late Stephen Poyntz Esq; This little library relates solely to Russian history and affairs, and contains in many languages every thing that perhaps has been written on that country. Mr. Cambridge's known benevolence, and his disposition to encourage every useful undertaking, has made him willing to throw open this magazine of curiosity to whoever is inclined to compile a History or elucidate the Transactions of an Empire, almost unknown even to it's cotemporaries.

AN
ACCOUNT
OF
RUSSIA
IN THE YEAR 1710.

THE Country of Russia, has formerly been *Russian* so little frequented by Foreigners, and their share in the affairs of Europe so inconsiderable, that to form any just notion thereof it may be of use in the present juncture, to give some general account of the

B Czar's

2 *A summary Account*

Czar's dominions, revenues, and forces, which may serve as a ground-work, to judge more properly of whatever may happen in the course of this war.

The Empire of Muscovy is at *Extent.* present of a vast extent, bounded on the North by the Iee-sea, and the unknown tracts near the Pole, on the East and South-East by China, Great-Tartary, the Usbecque-Tartars, and Persia ; on the South by part of Turkey, Poland, and Lithuania, and on the West by the Baltick-sea, Sweden and Lapland :

Lapland: A Territory almost *Nature*: equal in compass of ground to the rest of Europe, but very short of several kingdoms, in the riches of the country, and number of the people: Most like the American plantations on the Continent, the banks of the several rivers being tolerably inhabited, and land enough tilled for the necessity of life and the conveniency of their trade, as is very obvious from the frontiers of Lithuania to Mosco; for the ground is only cleared in proportion to the largeness of the

towns or villages on the road, and the rest wood on all sides. In the southern parts are very large unfrequented plains of several hundred miles, extremely fruitful in grass, and all sorts of sweet herbs and flowers, but wanting in wood and good water, and exposed to the sudden inroads of the Tartars, against which no peace or treaty is any security.

The soil is different in nature and goodness according to the climate: That about Mosco

Mosco is sandy, and not very fruitful, but sufficiently supplied by the convenience of the rivers in summer, and cheapness of sled carriage in the winter, which generally lasts there about six months.

The inhabitants are chiefly those called Muscovites, *Inhabitants*, the rest swell the bulk, but add little to the strength of the country; the Laplanders and Samoiedes being too heavy and dispirited; the several nations of Tartars too wild, and the Cossacks

sacks too full of freedom and
priviledge to be of any great
advantage.

The Laplanders and Samoiedes are dispersed all
and Samoiedes. along the large woods
on the White and Ice seas ; their
stature is low, their figure very
disagreeable, their apprehension
and understanding scarce above
that of brutes, and their reli-
gion, if any at all, little un-
derstood by those who frequent
them. Their food is generally
raw fish, or whatever they kill

or

or find dead, without distinction ; they are of use to the Muscovites in their seal-fishery about Nova Zembla ; and pay the Czar a small tribute of furs.

The kingdoms of Siberia and Daury were first entered by some Russian male-
factors who fled from justice in the time of John Bafilowitz, but on this discovery received their pardons, and being seconded by some soldiers made several settlements on the nearest rivers ; which by degrees have been

*Tartars of
Siberia and
Daury.*

been extended to the frontiers of China, the last fortress of the Czar's dominions called Nerczinsk, being built on the river Amur which falls into the South-sea ; the original inhabitants of these wide countries were several sorts of Tartars, who living in little *hordes* or companies under distinct governments, like the Indian nations in America, were easily subdued ; near the Russian plantations they have learned to dwell in houses, to till the ground, and pay the Czar an annual tribute of furs,

as

as fables, foxes and ermines : The other Tartars, who continue to range about with their tents, do not acknowledge the Czar's sovereignty, and are often troublesome in little parties, though not capable of making any great impression.

Cafan and Astracan were Tartarian kingdoms, who *Of Cafan and Astracan.* once made the Muscovites tributary, and several times brought that government to the brink of ruin ; but were entirely subdued by John Basilowitz,

witz, the first in 1552, and the other in 1554: After which he built several towns on the Wolga, strengthened them with good garrisons, and sent colonies of his own people to Casan and Astracan, who to this day do not suffer any Tartarians to settle within the walls.

The Czeremesses and Mor-
Czeremesses duars possess a large
and
Morduars. tract of land between
Nisen-Novogrod and Casan,
on both sides of the river Wol-
ga; they live in houses, follow
husbandry,

husbandry, and pay the Czar taxes and service as his other subjects, but never furnish recruits to the war.

The Baskirs are a powerful nation, extended from Casan to the frontiers of Siberia, they have some villages, but maintain their old freedom, and rebelled in 1707, when the Czar's officers would have loaded them with new impositions, and forced several of them to be baptized: They were appeased by the show of force, and redress of their grievances.

and divide, and may happen to
the rest of the country to
Astracan land, the frontiers of
the Uſbecques, is haunted by
Calmucks, the Calmucks, and other
hordes, who remove with their
tents according to the ſeafon
and convenience of ſubſtance:
The Czar makes them preſents
every year of cloth, money,
and ſome arms; and in return
they are obliged to ſerve him
in his wars without pay, which
they ſufficiently make up to
themselves, by plundering friends
and foes wherever they march;

the
bottom

the greatest number which has of late appeared in arms for the Czar, was about twelve thousand, who coming eight days after the battle of Poltawa, were dismissed back again, only about two thousand were sent into Livonia. The Religion of the Tartars is either Mahometan or Heathen, in which they have been left undisturbed by the Czar and his ancestors.

The Cossacks are distinguished into three sorts, known by the places where they first settled

settled themselves; but are all of the same nation, language, religion and form of government. They were originally Polish Peasants, formed into a militia under their own officers and discipline, and placed in the fruitful plains of the Ukraine, to secure the frontiers of the common-wealth against the Tartars; after some years they increased prodigiously in number and riches, and could no longer bear the indignities of the Polish Nobility, who affected to treat them as their slaves
on

on all occasions; this usage was the rise of several bloody wars, with different success.

In one of the first, the Cossacks being worsted, several of them rather than submit to the yoke, removed from the Ukraine to the unfrequented banks of the Don, or Tanais, where they begun a new plantation. In the year 1637, another detachment on the same occasion resolved to seek their fortune as far as the Caspian sea, but in their passage were persuaded

*Cossacks of
the Don.*

suaded by their old countrymen on the Don, to stop short and join in an attempt against Asoph, which they took the same year and kept till 1642, when the Turks approaching with a great army, and the Muscovites refusing them timely succours, they burnt the place, and fixed the seat of their little commonwealth at Circasky, a town on an island in the Don: Some time after they put themselves under the protection of the Muscovites; and had lately thirty nine towns on that river, from Rybna to Asoph, most of them on the North-

North-East side: The country is generally without trees, but fruitful to a wonder in grafs, flowers, sweet herbs, wild asparagus, &c. They sow very little corn, that being only the employment of their slaves; nor do they eat much bread, roots, or herbs; their chief diet being fish, flesh, and fruits; their riches consist in cattle, horses, dromedaries, and camels; in their houses and cloaths they are generally neater than the Muscovites; their religion is after the Greek, or Eastern Church;
 D they

they have very few tradesmen, or artificers; arms are their employment and delight, which in times of peace they exercise by parties against their constant enemies, the Calmuck, Cuban, and Crim Tartars; and in time of open war against the Turks on the Palus Maeotis. Their government is a sort of military Democracy; their chief *Hetman*, or Colonel over all, keeps his residence at Circaskey: He is elected in a general meeting of the captains and civil officers of the nation, but is confirmed by the

the Czar, and then his employment lasts for life, which he often loses on an unfortunate expedition, or other tumult: Every town is like a little common-wealth, and has it's own *Hetman*, or Captain, chosen yearly, who has the care of all business civil and military, and in the field acts as captain of his own community: They are left in possession of their old laws and customs, pay the Czar no tribute, furnish no recruits, and are only bound to appear in arms at their own charge when summoned:

summoned: But on the contrary their captains used to receive yearly presents from his treasury of cloth, money and corn; they have very great privileges, one of the most considerable was the freedom of any peasant or slave, who being once in their country could not be re-claimed by his master, or the Muscovite government; and on this account vast numbers of deserters sheltered themselves here in the present war, of which the Czar being informed, Prince Dolgoruki was sent

sent four years ago with twelve hundred men to search them out, he found some hundreds, but not being on his guard was in his return attacked by the Cossacks and cut to pieces with all his people; this occasioned a general revolt, and employed the Czar about ten thousand men near two years, in which troubles many of their towns were burnt, and no quarter given to man, woman, or child, besides several hundreds who were publickly executed at Véronitz: This has very much dispeopled the

the country, and made the name of Muscovy odious to the rest. In their most flourishing condition, they might be reckoned at fifteen thousand men fit to bear arms. so long as the Duke of Richelieu
had no fleet; so long did it
The Cossacks of the Ukraine, *Cossacks of the Ukraine* are much more numerous and considerable; their dominions extending several hundred miles between the rivers Boristhenes, or Neiper, and the Don; in 1654, they with their Hetman, on ill usage revolted from Poland,

land, and put themselves under the Czar's protection, giving him up Chioff, Czernichoff, and several other strong towns, as pledges of their fidelity. This country is extremely well peopled, and tilled ; their towns are many, all fortified with a dry ditch, earthen wall, and palisadoes ; the villages are large and neatly built with wood, they drive a great trade in hemp, pot-ash, wax, corn and cattle ; they live in much ease and plenty, enjoying the same privileges as those on the Don, which

which with their riches, drew upon them the envy of the Muscovite nobility and government, who by degrees made several incroachments on their liberties; and from hence sprung an universal discontent, and the revolt of Mazeppa to the King of Sweden; which being ill managed, the residence town of Bathurin was immediately taken and burnt, and above six thousand persons put to the sword without distinction of age or sex.

The

The Zaparovian Cossacks are just of the same temper and manner of life with those on the Don; they are so called from the Falls in the river Boristhenes, about which they seated themselves chiefly for their greater security and convenience of their incursions against the Turks and Tartars: When the Cossacks of the Ukraine, discouraged by the severe execution at Bathurin, sat still, these openly declared for Mazeppa, and con-

E tinued

tinued firm to him to the last; two or three thousand followed his fortune to Bender, and are still with the King of Sweden; most of the rest were cut to pieces, so that the remains of that name are at present very inconsiderable.

From these accounts, it is plain the Czar's strength must *Muscovites*, be chiefly computed from his national Muscovites, from whence alone his regular forces are formed and maintained, if you except some few contributions

contributions from the Mor-
duars and Czeremess Tartars,
who by degrees have been civi-
lized and subjected.

Their Numbers.

The highest and most
probable computation of their
numbers is, by

Houses that contribute to the } 884000
war in money, }

Houses that contribute towards } 1424000
carriages and provisions, }

Houses 1,308,000.

Souls.

Which at a medium of five } 6,540,000
persons to a house, make }

E 2 I have

I have seen another, by which the Empire was divided into eighty four parts, for raising the Czar's fleet in 1697:

	Houses.
Each part reckoned at	10,000
	In all, 840,000

	Souls.
At five persons per house,	4,200,000

These calculations comprehend all the Muscovites and their several colonies from Chioff to China, and the Ice-sea.

As the ground lies in most parts untilled, and the improvement

ment of every gentleman's revenue is the number of his peasants, or subjects; it has been the old maxim of the Muscovite officers in all their successful wars to carry off as many of the people as they could, and plant them on their own estates: Several towns on the Wolga, are the fruits of their former expeditions in Poland, and Lithuania; and they have at present drained above one third of the inhabitants from Ingria and Livonia, and settled whole villages of them in the southern

southern parts towards Veronitz, who finding their new slavery easier than their old, the earth more fruitful, and the climate more gentle, would, I believe, never return back, though left at liberty; an irreparable loss to the King of Sweden, if ever those provinces should return to their former master. Ingria has in some measure been re-peopled by colonies of Muscovites: Most of the great families now in being are of foreign extraction; as the Galliczins, Apraxins, Nareskins, &c. from Poland;

Poland; the Circaskys from Tartary; and the Czar prides himself in a Prussian original.

They are divided into three ranks, 1st the Nobility, called KNEAS; the Gentry, called DUORNINS; and the PEASANTS.

The KNEAS, or Dukes, were anciently heads of the *Nobility*, little governments into which this country was divided, but were all subdued in time by the Princes of Volodomir, who translated

translated their residence to
Mosco, and took upon them
the title of WELIKI KNEAS,
or *Great Duke*: The races of
these families still retain their
antient title; and several Poles
transplanted thither, as they be-
came considerable, assumed the
same mark of distinction, on
pretence of being descended
from their WAYWODES, or Pa-
latines. This title is different-
ly respected, according to the
revenue or employment of the
person; for those Dukes who
submitted on condition, and re-
ceived

ceived estates in exchange for their petty sovereignties, still continue in some splendor; others have raised themselves again by their civil or military service, while the rest are reduced to the lowest poverty and contempt: And two years ago, there were near three hundred Kneas common soldiers in Prince Menzikoff's regiment of dragoons. To remedy the confusion of this title, the Czar has begun since his progress to make some alterations: His late first Minister Golowin,

F and

and General Gordon, were made Counts by the Emperor; Alexander Menzikoff, his favorite, was made Prince of the Empire, four years ago: But the Czar's ambition increasing with his success, he thought of bestowing his own honours, and soon after created Prince Menzikoff Duke of Ingria. When Monsieur Golofkin, his present first Minister and Great Chancellor, was made a Count by the Emperor, he received soon after the same title from the Czar, who has

has since made his High Admiral Apraxin, and Lord Privy-seal Sotoff, both Counts, without any recourse to the Imperial Court, and designs by degrees to introduce the title of Barons and Knights ; he has already instituted an Order of Knighthood in honour of St. Andrew, who wear a blue Ribband and Star in imitation of the Garter.

The DUORNINS are Country Gentlemen, most where-
of hold their lands by Knights

E 2 service,

service, to appear in war on horse-back ; formerly it was sufficient to send a man well armed and mounted, but the present Czar makes them or their Sons serve in person, if they cannot buy interest enough with his ministers to be excused : When they appear in the field, they are not allowed a servant, though they may be masters of some hundred peasants, and are obliged to do all the Duties of common soldiers ; but their greatest mortification is, that such

of

no of their peasants as will but list volunteers, are immediately declared freemen, and in equal consideration with their masters, though the point of honour has not yet prevailed so far, as to give many instances of this nature. Such of the Duornins as live on their estates, and are far from Moscow, are at much ease, and give themselves great airs, though they are again as humble and submissive to the chief nobility and officers; for this country is the perfect model of Bayes's grand-

grand-dance, where every one has his share of slavery and worship ; except

The PEASANTS, who are perfect slaves, subject to the arbitrary power of their lords, and transferred with goods and chattles ; they can call nothing their own, which makes them very lazy, and when their masters task is done, and a little bread and firing provided for the year, the great business of their life is over, the rest of their time being idled

idled or slept away ; and yet they live content, a couple of earthen pots, a wooden platter, wooden spoon, and knife, are all their household goods ; their drink is water ; their food oatmeal, bread, salt, mushrooms and roots, on great days a little fish, or milk, if it is not a fast ; but flesh very rarely ; thus mere custom in them shames the pretended austerities of philosophy and false devotion, and fits them admirably for the fatigues of war, which if once familiar by use and discipline, will cer-

tainly

tainly advance far in a people, who go as unconcerned to death, or torments, and have as much passive valour as any nation in the world.

Their Religion is the Eastern Religion, or Greek Church, still more corrupted by ignorance and superstition ; they think to satisfy the second Commandment by allowing no carved images, but their churches are filled with miserable paintings without shade or perspective, and yet some of those dawbings,

dawbings, as well as the finer strokes of the Italian pencils, are said to be the work of angels ; particularly a celebrated piece of the Virgin Mary with three hands, which is preserved in the Monastery of Jerusalem, about thirty miles from Mosco : The respect paid to these pictures is the grossest kind of idolatry, and makes up a principal part of their devotion ; to these they bow and cross themselves ; every child has it's own patron saint allotted him at baptism,

G and

and every room it's guardian picture in a corner, the Russian place of honour, to which strangers pay their reverence coming in, before they begin their business, or take any notice of the company: These representations are all called by the general name of Bog, or *Fasts.* God. The rest of their worship is, in observing the fasts, which are four in the year, besides Wednesdays and Fridays, and very severe; in frequenting the church, if nigh at hand, once a day, in light-
ing

ing up wax candles to their saints, and often repeating the **GOSPODI РОХМЕЛИ**, or, *Lord have mercy upon me*, without any farther attention: Since the war, and frequent voyages of their young gentry, they begin to be less strict in their fasts; the Czar himself eats flesh on all of them in private houses, but refrains from giving any scandal in publick. Their ^{Churches.} Churches are very numerous, some of stone, the rest of wood, all built in the form of a cross, with five little

G 2 cupolas;

cupolas; every nobleman's seat has one; to build a church being thought a meritorious act, and laying a sort of obligation on heaven, though they are left at liberty to frequent them.

Secular Clergy. Their parish priests and chaplains, are of the meanest people, *husbands of one wife*, in a literal explication of the scripture; and when she died, the priest was formerly excluded from the service, and obliged to turn monk, or take up some sorry trade for a livelihood; but this Czar allows them

them to continue in the under offices of the church; and from this parentage and condition, it is no wonder they are very ignorant, their utmost education being to repeat the service with a musical accent, and to read a chapter in the Bible, which being in the Sclavonian language, is understood by very few of them; they never read the Old Testament in the church, and much less allow it to be placed on the altars. Their monks ^{Their regular and dignified Clergy.} and clergy ^{peculiar} though

46 *A summary Account*

though almost equally ignorant, except some few educated at Chioff, are in much greater esteem, their habits, fasts, for they never eat any flesh, gravity, and continual devotion, draw to them the eyes and veneration of the people, and their large possessions formerly strengthened their temporal interest so far, that the Patriarch Nichon durst struggle with the Czar's Father for independency, and was not kept under without great disturbance. This power has been

been so dangerous, that the present Czar, on the death of the late Patriarch, sequestered the office, committing the spiritual administration to the Archbishop of Rezan, and the management of the temporal affairs to a lay-commission, who have likewise the disposal of the abbey lands and revenues, which he took away some years ago on a pleasant pretence; for the abbots on his enquiry, affecting to appear very poor, alledging, that they were scarce able to maintain their

their monks though they confined themselves to the poor pittance of *fifteen rubles* a year *per head*; the Czar in a seeming compassion told them, he would take care of their revenues, and double that allowance; as he has done in effect, which besides the annual advantage of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds *sterling* to his treasury, has quite broke their interest in the country, where they have no more freehold left, and their peasants or subjects, now immediately depend upon the Czar's officers. The

The Government is absolute in the last degree, not *Government* bound up by any law or custom, but depending on the breath of the Prince, by which the lives and fortunes of all the subjects are decided; the common compliment of the greatest Nobility being, I AM THY SLAVE, TAKE MY HEAD: However, such as are employed in the state have their share of arbitrary power, their proceedings being without appeal, all in the Czar's name, which they often abuse to satisfy their

H avarice,

avarice, revenge, or other guilty passions. For right between *Laws*, private men, they have written laws and precedents, which they generally follow, though without any obligation, and their methods are easy and short enough, could their justice be proof against the temptation of a bribe, which is seldom found in this nation.

Administration. The Czars used formerly to keep up the veneration of their subjects, by appearing very rarely, except in publick acts of ceremony and devotion,

devotion, and then with a solemnity suitable to the occasion; while the *Bojars*, or privy Counsellors disposed of the Empire at their pleasure: But his present Majesty has broke through this formal servitude, and omits no occasion of exposing them and their customs to the common people; to weaken antient families farther, he often obliges their children to the meanest service, as being common soldiers in his foot-guards, and raises persons of no extraction to the great employ-

employments. The *Bojars*, or *The Bojars.* privy Counsellors, had formerly the chief direction of all the *Pricasses*, or offices: The *Ocolnitzen* were their assistants, being a lower sort of privy Counsellors, only admitted on extraordinary occasions. The *Dumnoy*, *and Diacks.* are the judges of all the processes, and the *Diacks*, the secretaries: Every *Pricasse* was composed of those officers, and had a sovereign jurisdiction of life and death, independant one of another, which often

often caused no small confusion; they were above thirty in number, for the several branches or provinces of the Empire, and though they are still kept up, yet the head officers, as Bojars and Ocolnitzen, have been dropt by degrees, and most of them left to the Diack, or secretary. In *New Scheme.* 1710, the Czar fell upon a new Scheme, which in time may cause great alterations; he has divided the Empire into eight governments.

Mosco,

Mosco, with all it's dependencies, is given to Mr. Stresnoff, the President at War.

ARCHANGEL, to Prince Galliczyn, formerly Envoy at Vienna.

ASOPH and the DON, to Count Apraxin, High-Admiral.

CASAN and ASTRACAN, to Lieutenant-General Apraxin, his Brother.

CHIOFF and the UKRAINE, to Lieutenant-General Galliczyn,

czyn, who was Commissary of War with the Muscovite troops in Saxony.

SIBERIA, to Prince Gagarin.

LIVONIA, INGRIA, PLESCOW and NOVOGROD, to Prince Menzikoff the Favorite.

SMOLENSKO, to Monsieur Sol-tikoff.

VERONITZ and the Ship-Yards, are to be a small government apart, which the Czar reserves in *petto*.

These

These Governors have the disposal of all employments civil and military, receive the revenues, and defray all the expences in their several provinces, and send a certain sum yearly into the great Treasury, clear of all charges ; they have absolute power, except in relation to the regular troops, who are never to be under their direction, nor paid by them, though quartered in their jurisdiction, but are to receive their orders immediately from the Czar and his Generals.

The

The present Czar is in his thirty-eighth year, a *The Czar.* handsome Prince, of a strong constitution, but of late much broke by irregular living, and other fatigues: He was very subject to convulsions, said to be the effects of poison from his Sister Sophia in his youth, which made him shy of being seen, but of late they are much mended. He is extremely curious and diligent, and has farther improved his Empire in ten years, than any other ever was, in ten times that space; and

I which

which is more surprizing, without any education, without any foreign help, contrary to the intention of his people, clergy, and chief ministers, but merely by the strength of his own genius, observation and example: He has gradually past through all the employments of the army, from a Drummer to Lieutenant-General; of the fleet, from a common Seaman to Rear Admiral; and in his ship-yards, from an ordinary Carpenter to Master-Builder: Farther particulars though agreeable, would be

be too long for this place ; He is good-natured but very passionate, though by degrees he has learnt to constrain himself, except the heat of wine is added to his natural temper ; he is certainly ambitious, though very modest in appearance ; suspicious of other people ; not over scrupulous in his engagements, or gratitude ; violent in the first heat, irresolute on longer deliberation, not rapacious, but near in his temper and expence to extremity ; he loves his soldiers, understands navigation,

ship-building, fortification, and fire-working: He speaks High-Dutch pretty readily, which is now growing the Court language. He is very particular in his way of living; when at Mosco he never lodges in the palace, but in a little wooden house built for him in the suburbs as Colonel of his guards: He has neither court, equipage, or other distinction from a private officer, except when he appears on publick solemnities.

The

The Court of the former Czars was very numerous and magnificent, being filled on solemn occasions by the *Bojars*, or privy Counsellors, with all the officers of each Pri-
casse, by the Nobility and Gen-
try, who were obliged to at-
tendance by titles of honour
and distinction without any sa-
lary ; as the *Krapshecks*, or
Carvers, who are only two of
the first Nobility, this employ-
ment being reckoned very con-
siderable : The *Stolnicks*, or
Sewers, who are also used to
carry

carry any message of importance, to receive ambassadors, &c. The *Spalnicks*, or Gentlemen of the Bedchamber; which two last titles are in great number, and descend from Father to Son, though generally confirmed by the Prince: And lastly, by the *Gofts*, or chief Merchants. On publick feasts or ceremonies all these received rich gowns of brocade lined with furs from the treasury, which they returned as soon as the appearance was over; but the present Czar has quite abolished these formalities,

lities, without settling any other court ; some say to spare the expence during the war, or rather from his particular temper which is averse to such constraints. On any ceremony he is attended by the officers of his army, and nobility without any distinction, which makes a tolerable show.

His favorite Alexander Menzikoff is born of very *The Favorite.* mean parents ; was accidentally met by the Czar in the streets when a boy, and for some unlucky answers preferred to serve one of

of his gentlemen ; from which step he is grown by degrees the most powerful subject in Europe ; his diligence and dispatch have been his chief recommendation ; and some have thought their intimacy rather resembled love than friendship, they having frequent jars and constant reconcilements, though some such accident may once prove fatal, as has already been very near. His parts are not extraordinary, his education low, for the Czar would never let him learn to read or write, and his advancement too

too quick to give him time for observation or experience. Under the Czar's name he uses an absolute power in all affairs ; makes every interest give way to his private passions ; in which he often contradicts the Czar's orders, and if it comes to be contested generally carries the point from his Master ; he is not beloved by the common people, and much less by the old nobility and chief officers, who have a strong cabal against him, headed by the High-Admiral Apraxin. He was made Prince of

the Empire in 1706; Duke of Ingria in 1707; and Felt Marshal in 1709. He is a violent enemy to Felt Marshal Shereemetoff, and has often brought him to the brink of ruin. He has formed a Court after the fashion of the little German Princes, of chamberlains, marshals, secretaries, &c. most foreigners.

Monsieur Golofkin is of an ancient family, he was ^{of the} Great Chamberlain, and on the death of Count Golowin was made Lord Chancellor of the

the Empire, which great employment he modestly declined for several months ; he is a gentleman of good sense, very devout, and has the general character of a man of honour : No one ever complained of his cruelty and injustice, though some think he is not resolute enough in opposing that of others. He was made Count of the Roman Empire, and of Russia about three years ago.

Monsieur Schapfirroff is of no great extraction, his Vice
Chancellor. grand-father was one of

the Jews carried out of Poland in their former wars, his father was baptized, and he professes the Russian religion: In 1705, he was private secretary to Count Golowin, to whom his diligence and knowledge of the High-Dutch tongue made him absolutely necessary; on the Count's death he was made Secretary to the Office of Embassies, and in 1709, Vice Chancellor with Count Golofkin; all foreign affairs go necessarily through his hands; he has more experience than natural qualifications; he is

is generally esteemed fair enough in his business, but his quick preferments have given him an air of stiffness, and it is said his private interest will not always let him distinguish the merits of the cause.

Prince Dolgoruki, who some years ago was the Czar's Privy Counsellor. ambassador in Poland, is often joined to these gentlemen in the consultations on any foreign affairs, but the executive part is entirely left to them ; he is a person of good sense, manners, modesty and honour.

Monsieur

Monsieur Apraxin is of a *High-Admiral.* good family, his ancestors having been Stolnicks, or Sewers; the old Empress dowager, Mother of the Czar's eldest Brother, is his Sister; this alliance brought him into court and favour, which he soon improved by a ready wit, and a conscience not enslaved to any scruples to obstruct his fortune; he had been Commissioner of the Admiralty for many years, and on Count Golowin's death was made *High-Admiral*;

1709, he was made Governor of Ingria in Prince Menzikoff's absence, and had the good fortune to see the Swedish army under General Lubecker kill their horses, and retire out of that province unaccountably; which miscarriage turned as his own merit, and thereby increased his credit with his Prince; he is very revengeful, and no enemy to presents; he appears openly against the Favorite, and has great credit at court, but his indiscretion in drink when in the Czar's company, sometimes

times exposes him to disagreeable accidents.

Felt Marshal Sheremetoff is of a very antient family, famous for producing lucky Generals against the Tatars, of which success he has also had his share in the late Turkish war: In his travels to Italy, he made a campaign on the Galleys of Malta, and is honoured with a Cross of that Order. He is the politest man in the country, and most improved by his travels, is magnificent in his equipage and way of

of life, extremely beloved by the soldiers, and almost adored by the people; he enjoys a vigorous age at sixty and odd, has good-nature, honour, and as much personal valour as any man, but not experience enough to act against an army of regular troops; he often suffers under the Favorite's persecution, and has more than once desired leave to lay down his command, but has always been refused.

There are several other Ministers who come into the privy Council, but as they confine

L themselves

themselves to the domestick affairs, and have no remarkable degree of favour, or influence in matters of state, I shall not trouble you with their names or em-

Riches. ployments, but proceed to some small account of the Czar's riches.

The commerce coin of Muf-

Silver Coin. covy is a small piece of silver about the bigness of an English penny, called a Copeek.

3 COPEEKS,	make an	ALTINE.
10 COPEEKS,	---- a	GREIVEN.
25 COPEEKS,	---- a	POPOLTINE.
50 COPEEKS,	---- a	POLTINE.
100 COPEEKS,	---- a	RUBLE.

Formerly

Formerly there was no coin but Copeeks, and the other names were only to signify such a number, for the easiness of the tale; but in 1703, great quantities of specie, Rubles, half Rubles, &c. were made, though the mass of money is still in Copeeks.

All great sums are generally by Rubles, or an hundred Copeeks, the intrinsic value whereof may be about 4*s.* 4*d.* English, but in the course of exchange, is generally reckoned

at 6*s.* 8*d.* : And fifteen years ago was 10*s.*

An hundred Rubles weighed *Weight.* twelve pound in John Basilowitz's time, who reigned from 1540 to 1584, and were kept up to eleven pounds till the reign of his present Majesty, but since the war, and growing necessities of the treasury, have been reduced by degrees to six pounds twelve ounces and three quarters, English weight. An hundred Rubles of old Copeeks weighing ten pounds, are received in the treasury, at an al-
lowance

allowance of fifteen *per cent*, and are there melted down into new Copeeks.

The standard should be of the same goodness with ^{Standard.} Lyon Dollars, *viz.* twelve ounces fine silver, and four ounces alloy to the pound weight, but most that is carried into the mint, is not above ten ounces fine silver, and being seldom tryed when melted, their coins are of different value, as the run happens to be good or bad, Plate, Dollars, and old Copeeks, being

being all melted together, with an additional alloy of brafs.

The Silver is Cross Dollars, Imported. Lyon Dollars, and Albertus Dollars, with unwrought Plate, brought from Holland and Hamburg, and Bremen. Of Dollars yearly from two to three thousand; part to clear the Merchants customs; part in return of brafs money, which the treasury often advances to foreigners, to be repaid in Dollars at two years end, and partly for the advantage of the exchange, in the course whereof

whereof to Holland, a Dollar is only rated from sixty-two to seventy-three Copeeks; but can be sold in Archangel from eighty-five to ninety Copeeks.

In 1702, the first Ducats were coined with the *Gold Coin.* Czar's stamp, at twenty-six carats, being the value of Holland's Ducats; but next year the direction of the mint was taken from the foreigners, and the Chinese gold being only at twenty or twenty-one carats from one to three grains, was left without refining, which utterly

terly decried those Ducats, and very few have been coined since 1706. The gold is imported in ingots from China, about three hundred and sixty pound weight English yearly, besides some thousand Ducats brought every summer by the fleet to Archangel.

In 1705, the Czar begun *Brafs.* to coin brafs, Copeeks, halves and quarters, thirty-six pound of brafs English weight which is bought in Mosco for seven Rubles, produce twenty when coined; about ten thousand

sand of these Copeeks are given out monthly, but no one is obliged to receive them in payment, except such as are in the Czar's service ; they may be negotiated against silver at two *per cent.* loss. The brass comes by the fleets to Archangel.

The money of this country, as to the supplies of silver and value of the coin, depends so much on *Trade*, that it will be necessary to make some mention of the chief branches in this place.

The goods chiefly imported
Importations. from England are all sorts of woollen manufactures, lead, tin, dying-woods, indigo, pewter, olibanum, brimstone, lignum-vitæ: The Hollanders and Hamburgers, besides these, bring wines, paper, alum, glass-ware, spices, dollars, plate, gold and silver lace, brocades, Silesia cloth, and all sorts of galanteries.

The English export chiefly, *Exportations.* hemp, flax, train-oil, linnen, pot-ash, rhubarb, and singlafs,

ifinglass, wax, tar, red-hides
and caviar ; the two last to
Leghorne. The Hollanders and
Hamburgers carry out farther,
wood-ash, masts, hydes dried
and salted, tallow, sables, hemp-
seed, mats, and hogs-bristles.

Their Fishery of *seals*, or
sea-dogs, about ten *Fishery*.
thousand a year, yield five thou-
sand measures of oil ; the skins
and oil are sent to England.

Morses, or sea-horses, from No-
va Zembla, used to load thirty
boats a year with blubber, the
teeth are esteemed next to ivory,

but the trade being monopolized by a ~~COMPANY~~ decays daily. Cod and stock-fish, about three ships lading yearly to Denmark; salmon salted and dried, a ship's loading to Bilboa; these with the cod are taken in the North-sea, about Kilduyn and Cola; but the ships bring salt from St. Ubes.

The foreign merchants are *Customs* obliged to pay their customs in Dollars specie, at Archangel, which are only reckoned at the antient value of fifty

fifty Copeeks when received into the treasury, and that too by weight, fourteen to the pound, which seldom holding, it comes from fourteen and a quarter to three quarters. Foreigners pay five *per cent.* for all goods bought and sold by weight, and four *per cent.* for those by tale or measure; they only pay single duties, either for their exportations or importations, whichsoever mount highest at the end of the trade time; goods sent up by foreigners to Mosco, or any inland towns pay ten *per cent.*

cent. in Dollars, and six per cent. where they buy or sell in Russ money: The Russians pay five per cent. where they sell or buy in the country, and five per cent. at Archangel. Wine pays a particular custom of five Dollars an hogshead.

In 1710, the course of exchange was three Rubles ten Copeeks to the pound sterling, whereas the intrinsic value is only about four Rubles and a half; for the exportations exceeding the importations near

two thousand Rubles yearly; the national credit of their money is kept up, which would fall almost to the real worth, if any considerable sum above the ballance of the trade was to be remitted beyond sea.

The Czar's revenues may be about seven millions of Rubles yearly, arising chiefly;

From the custom of goods in Archangel, and *How arising.* the duties on them when bought or sold by retail in the country.

From

From *monopolies* in the Czar's hands; pot-ash yearly to the value of forty thousand dollars; wood-ash one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars; caviar, thirty thousand pieces of eight, besides what is consumed in the country; rhubarb, about twenty thousand dollars, all which commodities are never sold but for specie dollars; tar, in 1706, forty thousand dollars, and another for ten thousand rubles; very little sold since.

From

From *inland monopolies*; salt, five hundred thousand rubles; tobacco, boards and bricks, which are only sold by the Czar's officers, the sums uncertain; furs from Siberia in the treasury; brandy and beer, which in the town of Mosco alone bring in six hundred thousand rubles *per ann.*

From the *mint* by re-coinage of dollars, at one hundred and twenty *per cent.* profit.

Of OLD MONEY at thirty *per cent.*

Of BRASS MONEY at sixty-five *per cent.*

N

From

From the *Chinese trade*, which, if well managed, would bring in about two or three hundred rubles profit yearly ; the cargoes thither are several sorts of European merchandize, but chiefly furs, as sables, ermines, black foxes, and grey squirrels, from Siberia ; the returns are made in damasks, callicoes, blew linnen, gold, tapistry, China ware, and drugs : A great part of these used to be sold into Lithuania and Poland, which trade is now almost funk.

From

From the *Persian trade*, whence raw-silk, carpets, brocades, fattins, jewels, and Persia leather are imported, chiefly by the Armenians, who only pay two *per cent.* custom, for whatever they transport through the Czar's dominions without breaking bulk, according to an old privilege.

From *new impositions* on stamp paper; on all law-suits, which pay ten *per cent.* of the value contested; oven, or chimney money; all hackney horses

N 2 and

and carriages; all Bath-stoves, of which every village has one in publick, and every fashionable house one in particular, are taxed at a ruble a piece yearly.

From the *abbey lands*, which were very considerable, but have been taken into the Czar's hands, and are managed by a secular commission, a competency being allowed each cloister in proportion to the number of monks.

From the *land-tax*, and *royal domaines*.

All the Czar's expences are paid within the year, which makes the present war fall very heavy on him; for though he does not owe above two hundred thousand rubles on all accounts; his treasury by ill management cannot find credit for ten thousand rubles; nor will the merchants give any bills of exchange, till they have received the money before hand.

Mines there are,

Of iron, several in Russia indifferent; in Siberia very good.

Of copper, at Olonitz.

Of brimstone, at Casan, and in the mountains which bound Siberia.

Hot baths and mineral waters are found about Terki on the Caspian-sea.

Salt-peter comes from Chioff and Rebena in the Ukraine, as good as any in the world.

In 1709, an engineer sent down into the deserts between Afoph and Chioff, found three mines of different ore, on the river

river Kundruczi which falls into the Don, above the town of Circasky : On other little rivers which fall into the Donec, he found old melting ovens, the openings of several mines which had been worked on, all thought to be the remains of the Genoese colonies. He supposes some of them to have vitriol, and quicksilver, or good tin.

The Czar's forces which are regimented, cloathed *Czar's Forces.* and disciplined, after the foreign manner, including the seperate bodies

bodies in Poland, Lithuania, Livonia, and Ingria, with the several garrisons along the frontiers from Chioff to Wyburgh, consist of fifty-one regiments of foot, *viz.*

	<i>Men.</i>
The first of Guards,	2400
51 { Five more 1800 each,	9000
Forty-five more 1200 each,	54000
Fifty-one companies of Grenadiers,	5100
One company of Bombardiers,	150
Thirty-six regiments of Dragoons,	36000
at 100 each,	
Three regiments of horse Grenadiers,	3000
	<hr/>
<i>Total,</i>	<i>109,650.</i>

The

The first regiment of foot-guards has twenty-four companies, the five others eighteen companies, and the ordinary regiments twelve; the regiments of dragoons have ten companies each. The foot receive equal pay and portion with the dragoons, hay and oats excepted.

S T A F F O F F I C E R S.

Yearly Rubles.

Colonel, as such, 650

Lieut. Colonel, as such, 390

Major, as such, 325

Clerk of the Regiment, 91

Surgeon, 130

Chaplain } and } are paid by the Regiment.

Provost } 0 Of

ANNUAL EXPENSES
Of a COMPANY.

	Yearly Rubles.
Captain,	234
Lieutenant,	139
Ensign,	104
Quarter Master,	91
Three Serjeants, at 15 rubles 60	46
copeeks each,	
Six Corporals, at 13 rubles each,	78
Clerk of the company,	13
Two Drummers, 11 rubles each,	22
Eighty-four common Soldiers, at 11 rubles each,	924
One hundred Men,	1642

Nine companies more, 14,778.

Total of a Dragoon regiment, 18,006.

The Colonels, Lieut. Colonels, and Majors, have all companies, and full allowance as Captains. The

The portions are to every common soldier a * tun of corn, the eighth part of a tun of pease or oatmeal, and ten pounds of bacon, *per month*:

To the dragoons eighteen pounds English of hay *per diem*, and two tun of oats *per month*.

All under officers, from Quarter-masters to Drummers inclusively, have double portions; the Hautboys, where any are, receive their extra pay from the Colonels.

* So in the original; but probably a Russian tun differs very much from ours.

The foreign Generals are on different footings according to their capitulations.

Felt Marshal Lieutenant, 10,000 dollars, *per annum.*

A foreign Lieutenant General, commonly 3250 rubles, *per annum.*

Lieutenant General of the country, 1560 Rubles yearly.

A foreign Major General, 1950

Major General of the country, 1170

Brigadier General, about 1040.

All general officers have regiments and companies, with allowance of pay and profits.

ALLOWANCE

ALLOWANCE of SERVANTS.

	Numb.	
Felt Marshal,	30	
Lieut. General,	12	Besides those as Colonels
Major General,	8	and Captains.
Colonel,	6	Besides those as Captain.
Lieut. Colonel,	5	
Major,	5	
Captain,	2	
Lieutenant,	1	
Ensign,	1	

REGIMENTS which are not compleatly officered, cloathed and payed on the foreign footing:

	MEN.
Four Regiments in garrison at Smolensko,	4800
One Regiment in Archangel,	1200
One Regiment in Veronitz,	1200
Four Regiments in Asoph and Taganrok,	4800
	Five

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	MEN.
Five Regiments in Astracan,	6000
In Casan, and be- tween the Don and Wolga.	Four Regiments of foot, 4800 Two Regiments of dragoons, 2000
Twenty-one Regiments,	24,800.
Two Regiments of militia near Casan,	2000
Un-regimented Soldiers and free companies in the lesser gar- risons of Ingria,	3383
Officers and Soldiers of the artil- lery in several garrisons of Ingria,	767
Recruits exercising in several parts of the country, generally about	10,000
Ninety Regiments of dragoons, as on page 96,	109,650
<i>Total,</i>	<u>150,600.</u>

Six Regiments of Germans, who after their capitulation at Perevolotsch took service under the Czar, and were sent last winter to Casan and Astracan, being between three or four hundred each, may be about

10,000.

Of the Cossacks and Tartars I cannot make any just computation; the most the Czar has had together in this war, have not been above 30,000 men.

To

To these must be added, the garrisons of Siberia and the North, which cannot be drawn off for any service in Europe.

The pay of the Officers in the garrisons and uncompleted regiments is,

Colonel, from 25 to 30 Rubles, *per month*.
 Lieut. Colonel, 15 Rubles, *per month*.
 Major, 14
 Captain, 11
 Lieutenant, 9, 10 Copeeks.
 For cloathing the Czar's army, every man is allowed eight *arshines* of cloth, from

from sixty to seventy copeeks
the *arshine**; the first cost of
the cloth in England is about
3*s.* 2*d.* the yard.

Cloaks for the Dragoons, each six yards.

Hats delivered into } 60 Copeeks a piece.
the magazines at }

Boots, 80 Copeeks a pair.

A Soldier's Musquet, } 80 Copeeks.
bad,

A Sword, 25 Copeeks.

A pair of Pistols, 3 Rubles.

N. B. Only the guards have Pistols; they
have also better arms from Utrecht, or
Saxony.

* The name of a Russ measure, near a quarter less than an English yard.

The army is cloathed once in two years; towards the cloathing a copeek a day is deducted from the soldiers; the Czar finds the arms and horses.

The nobility are obliged to *Horses.* furnish the horses for the dragoons, at seven rubles a horse, paid out of the Czar's treasury, though the horses often cost them ten or twelve rubles a piece. Some of the regiments have been mounted on the Swedish horses which were surrendered at Perevolotsch; the rest

very

very ill mounted: Most of the dragoons are gentry, obliged to appear by the tenure of their lands.

The artillery is very well served; the great guns ^{Artillery.} are most of mettle, generally from three to thirty-six pouders, new cast since the present war, either from old pieces which had been heaped up by the Czar's ancestors, without any just regard to the *calibre*, or from the bells which every church or cloister were obliged to furnish to the foundery about

ten years ago, according to their largeness and income. In 1708, there were a thousand pieces of cannon in the town of Mosco alone, from one to sixty pounders ; the arsenals of Plefcow, Smolensko and Chioff were filled in proportion ; besides the field artillery, every battalion having two long three pounders of mettle ; the mortars are of brass, or Siberia iron, of small bores. The Czar is personally very curious in his fire-works, is Captain of his bombardiers, and has most foreign officers, which

which he engaged in England or Holland after the last peace. The powder is made in Moscow strong and good, except the delivery is connived at by the officers for their own profits ; the magazines are not filled with stores as they ought to be, but sufficient quantities may be prepared in a little time, there being several mills ready, and always plenty of good salt-peter from the Ukraine.

Account of the progress made by the Czar in his shipping.

July

The

The first ship was built for
Shipping. the Czar's pleasure when
very young, on the *Bielo Ozero*,
or White-sea, a large lake
about three hundred miles from
Mosco.

In the winter of 1695, seve-
ral half gallies and brigantines
were prepared at Mosco, and
carried by sled-way to Veronitz,
where they were put together,
and sent down the Don to be
used at the siege of Afoph.

In 1696, a considerable num-
ber of ship-carpenters coming
from

from Holland, with two Italians and a Greek master from Venice, a fleet was raised at Stupená and Veronitz, for which end the whole Empire was divided into eighty-four parts, and each division to furnish a ship, or an equivalent number of gallies, brigantines, and small craft: The chief nobility appointed to oversee this work in the Czar's absence, contracted for the ships with foreigners, who for want of experience, dry timber, and sufficient time, as well as for their private gains, run up the vessels

vessels very slightly with green and bad stuff, so that they decayed before they were finished; which the Czar perceiving at his return from Great Britain, he came by degrees entirely to dislike the Dutch building and masters, and discharged them as he could procure English. The last ships built by the Dutch, were eleven frigates at Stupena in 1703.

The fleet being built on *Places where large rivers, far up the Ships are built.* in the land, it may be of use to give some short description

description of the places, where the yards either are, or have been settled.

Stupena is a small town on the river Veronne, about twenty English miles above Veronitz.

Veronitz is another small town, lying in 50 degrees 20 minutes of northern latitude, and in 63 degrees longitude, on the Veronne, eight English miles above the mouth of that river, where it falls into the Don. In 1696, the

Czar began a stone arsenal there, to preserve all manner of stores. The ships here, and at Stupena, were built on the land on launches, but could not be got a-float without great difficulty, nor otherwise than in the spring, to remove which inconvenience a sluice and work was made at the mouth of the river in 1702, for raising and letting off the water at any time required; and by this means fifteen ships were laid dry on the land to be refitted in 1703: But proper care not being

ing taken to keep the sluices open in the spring, when the floods came down, and brought vast quantities of sand washed off the neighbouring mountains, the channel began to choak up, scarce six foot of water remaining where seventeen were formerly.

This disappointment, with the bad air, the ground being marshy, and the people subject to agues in the spring, which has carried several of them off, obliged the Czar to think of removing his yards, and the

river being visited in 1705, for a proper place to make some docks, Taveroff a little village six miles lower was pitched on by the High-Admiral Apraxin, contrary to the opinion of all the ship-carpenters and sluice-makers, who represented that it was impossible to lay any foundation there, which could secure them against the force of the floods, the banks being a loose sand; but the Admiral continuing obstinate for some private interest, eight docks were begun under the direction of

of a Polander, Anniseé Miketowick, in 1706. The gates and foundations were accordingly blown up in 1707, and notwithstanding all possible care and reparations, met the same fate in 1708: In the same year however positive orders being given to set up four eighty gun ships, three of forty-eight, and one of twenty-four in that place, the carpenters resolved to open the gates in the floods and let in the water, rather than have the foundation of the dock torn up, and the carcasses of the ships

ships spoiled at the same time, as happened to one the year before : This occasions a great delay of near six weeks in the spring, during which all the men lye idle.

The Czar being convinced of these inconveniencies in 1709, when he was there in the spring, ordered the ships to be run up with plank, until they could hold water, and then to abandon the work, which had cost above one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, and the lives of three or four thousand men ; and

and a new work is begun at the mouth of the river Seriot, which forms a small lake a little before it falls into the Don, about one hundred English miles below Veronitz ; and an engineer is already ordered thither, to lay out the plan of a fortification, the place being on the *Step*, or desert, exposed to the rebellions of the Cossacks, and sudden incursions of the Tartars.

The river Don springs from the *Ivan Ozero*, or *River Don*, St. John's-sea, in the ^{the} *ancient Tanais*. 54th degree 15 minutes, and from

from thence runs a course of about five hundred English miles to Asoph, a little below which place it falls into the Palus Maeotis, in the 47th degree 20 minutes. The Don is below Veronitz, from three hundred to six hundred fathom broad, and deep enough from the middle of April to the end of June for ships of burthen, but in the other months the water is so low, that in several shallows there is not above a foot and a half. In the spring floods this river rises from sixteen to eighteen

teen foot perpendicular, and the current is very rapid. In 1709, the Czar set out from Veronitz with six brigantines on the tenth of April, and arrived at Asoph on the twentieth of the same month; two men of war, which were carried down at the same time, got thither about a fortnight afterwards.

Asoph lies at the mouth of the river Don, in 47 degrees 27 minutes latitude, and 64 degrees 32 minutes longitude; it was taken by the Cossacks in 1637, who continued

masters of the place till 1642, when it fell to the Turks, and remained in their hands till 1696, but was then taken by the Czar; the fortifications were new modelled, and two little fortresses built at the mouth of the Don. This haven is very inconvenient, and almost impracticable for ships of burthen; for the Don dividing into several branches, the currents are not strong enough to clear the mouths of the river from the sands which choak them up, and leave not above six or seven foot,

foot of water in most places, so that the men of war can only go out in the spring floods, and then must be lightened from their artillery, &c. or when violent winds have set in from the sea for several days together, which raise the water to a very great height, as generally happen in autumn in the Finnish gulph.

By reason of this difficulty, the Czar was obliged *Taganrok.* to look out for another haven, and pitched on a nook of land which runs out into the Palus

Mæotis, to the west of Asoph, where he built a very good town, regular fortifications, a large mole like the basin of Toulon, and for the greater security, a redoubt in nature of the Riesbank has been raised before the entrance. When this work was begun, the harbour was deep enough for ships of force, but as the mole was carried on, the sands increased, and now a ship of fifty guns cannot go in or out without camels, as at the Pampus; so that it cannot serve for a retreat from an enemy, or in bad weather.

The

The Palus Mæotis is about three hundred English miles long, and generally about an hundred broad, it ebbs and flows as the Mediterranean, the water is very shallow towards the shores, and subject to great storms, and short waves.

The Czar's ships for the Baltick are built at Ladinopole and Ladinopole, and Olonitz, or Olonec, villages lying on two small rivers on the north-east side of the Ladoga-sea.

At

At Petersburgh there is a
little yard, where all
sorts of boats and small craft are
built, and some of the frigates
are repaired : This is the Czar's
favorite town and haven, built
on two small islands in the river
Nieva, which is there large and
deep enough to receive sixty gun
ships close to the walls of the
fortress : The foundation of this
new town was laid soon after
the taking of Nyenschantz,
which the Czar demolished, in
hopes it might one day prove a
second Amsterdam or Venice;

to

to people it the nobility were ordered to remove hither from the farthest part of the country, though with not small difficulty, since the climate is too cold, and the ground too marshy to furnish the conveniences of life, which are all brought from the neighbouring countries ; however, the Czar is charmed with his new production, and would loose the best of his provinces sooner than this barren corner. The fortress is built on a seperate island with good stone bastions laid on piles, but of much too narrow an

extent

extent to make any considerable defence, in case of an attack. The floods in autumn are very inconvenient, sometimes rising suddenly in the night to the first floors, so that the cattle are often swept away, and the inhabitants scarce saved by their upper stories; on which account they can have no magazines or cellars, nor is the ground practicable for digging, the water coming in at two foot depth; the river is seldom or never clear of the ice before the middle of May, and the ships can-

not

not hold the sea any longer than the end of September, without great danger.

At Archangel, the royal transport lies in very good *Archangel.* condition, with a frigate of sixteen guns and another of twenty; some merchant ships are built almost yearly here, by a Dutch builder, with Russian carpenters under him.

At Casan about forty frigates from eight to fourteen *Casan.* guns, which were built there, but very ill proportioned, lye rotting on the shore.

Number of SHIPS on the DON that
are finished:

	GUNS.
One by his Czarish Majesty of	80 decayed.
Two by Mr. Cofens of	70
Two by Mr. Nye of	70
Three by Mr. Nye of	50
<i>Two of these have been decayed and are repaired.</i>	
Two by the Czar of	50
<i>One of these has been decayed the other has been repaired.</i>	
Two Dutch ships re-built at Stupena of	48
One by Mr. Nye of	16
<i>The last in imitation of the transport.</i>	

In all, 13.

In which Mr. Cofens has been employed eight, and Mr. Nye eleven years.

On

On the STOCKS at TOVAROFF.

	GUNS.
Two by Mr. Cofens of	80
Two by Mr. Nye of	80

The frames of these are up, but on representation of their being too large, only one is to be finished for a trial.

The Czar has timber lying ready there for two more of eighty guns ; but none of these will carry so many guns as they are rated at, by six or ten each.

On the LAUNCHES at TOVAROFF

Two by Mr. Cofens of	48
One by Mr. Nye of	48
One by Mr. Nye of	24
<i>The last is designed for a battery ship, to carry one tire only, 24 pounds.</i>	24

These last ships now in hand are to be built on chests, for the easier floating them down the Don, and over the flats at Asoph.

On the Don at several places, are thirty-six sail of Dutch ships from eighty to thirty guns, all rotten, and only planked on the out-side to keep above water for a show,

a show, but as the new ships can be got ready, will be broke up and used for firing, the two lately re-built having not proved worth the expence of time and charge.

In the Palus Maeotis; at Afoph are two men of war British built, and carried down thither in 1709; the rest are brigantines and half gallies.

At Taganrok are six or seven Dutch built ships quite decayed; two are used every year to fetch salt from one of the islands in the Palus Maeotis, on the coast of

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of Georgia, and are all fit for
no other service.

The dimensions of the eighty
Dimensions. gun ships are fifty feet
broad, and one hundred and
sixty-eight feet long, and seven-
teen feet and a half is to be their
greatest draught of water ; but
they being built too shallow for
the length and breadth, the ship-
wrights were of opinion, their
backs would be in danger of
breaking in bad weather, that
they had not hold enough in the
water to save themselves from a
lee-shore, and were of too great
bulk

bulk for the Palus Mæotis. The other rates are after the same proportion.

All the ships by the fault of the timber, some being green, others over-grown, and a great part cut in the spring after the sap is run up, which makes the wood spungy, moistness of the air, and damps of the earth, rot as fast as they are built; to prevent which, a proposal was made by Captain Perry, three years ago, to lay them up in a dry haven, and cover them with sheds; the timber for the project

was
long and in general, and
all

was cut down, but the work not yet begun; a copy of the proposal was sent by me to Great Britain some time ago.

The fleet at Petersburgh,
Ships at Petersburgh. consists of twelve frigates, eight gallies, six fire-ships, and two bomb-vessels, besides small craft. Of the frigates only three are in a condition of service, the rest being decayed will scarce endure the sea, and much less an engagement before they are rebuilt.

At

At Olonitz, two ships of fir are building of forty guns, and may be ready this summer.

At Ladinople, two by Mr. Brown of fifty guns were to be ready the last summer, the knee, timbers, stem and stern are of oak, brought from Casan by land.

One ship of eighty guns was to be set up last year.

T

All

All the other ships at Petersburgh and Archangel are of fir, those at Veronitz and Gafan are of oak. In 1710, orders were given for fitting up twenty-three sail of ships on the Don, being those built, or building by the English, which are like to be the main force of the Czar's fleet, the rest being show and number.

The fleet at Petersburgh has *Sea-Men* only, hitherto been *Petersburgh*, manned in any tolerable regularity; each frigate

there

there had, a captain, lieutenant, master, boatswain, boatswain's-mate, seamen, and eighty marines; but on any expedition they were always re-inforced by the soldiers of the garrison.

On the thirty-six sail of Dutch ships on the *On the Don.* Don, are thirty-five Dutch officers and seamen, and about two hundred Russians.

At Taveroff, are about fifteen officers and seamen.

At Taganrok is Commodore Beckham, an Englishman, with about three foreign officers and seamen, and sixteen Russians on board each ship: When the vessels sail for salt, they are manned by the soldiers of the garrison.

At Archangel was a Commodore, a Hollander; the frigates there were better manned by Russian pilots and watermen, and foreign seamen, which were yearly debauched out

out of the fleets : These vessels are now pirating in the Baltick.

A sea captain has thirty-nine rubles, *a month* ; a lieutenant ^{Pay.} seventeen ; an under-lieutenant and master eleven : The Russian seamen and marines are paid on the same footing with the land forces, *viz.* each man a tun of corn, the eighth part of a tun of pease or oatmeal, and ten pounds of bacon, *a month*, and eleven rubles *a year* in money. The foreigners have something extraordinary for their encouragement.

On the Don are three yards
on the following establishment.

In the First YARD.

YEARLY SALARY.

Pounds Ster. Rubles.

Master Builder, Rich. Cossens,	500	120
Under Master, Hadley,	100	100
Assistant, Rob. Davenport,	70	80
First Prentice, Francis Kitchen,		182
Second Prentice, Wm. Snel- grove, sent to Petersburgh,		130
A Dutch Smith for the ship- work,		260
Five hundred Carpenters and Labourers, one with a- nother,		12,592
		<u>130</u>
<i>Total, 670.</i>	<i>13,592.</i>	

In

In the Second YARD.

	Yearly Rubles.
Master Builder, The CZAR, at	500
Under Master, Fedaseé Soltikoff,	1000
First Assistant,	260
Second Assistant,	260
A Dutch Smith,	182
Five hundred Carpenters, &c. <i>as in the First,</i>	<u>12,592</u>
	<i>Total, 14,794.</i>

In the Third YARD.

	YEARLY SALARY, Pounds ster. Rubles.
Master Builder, Henry Nye,	250 100
Under Master, Henry Johnson,	100 120
Assistant, Wm. Gardner,	80 100
Three Russian Prentices, at <u>130 rubles each,</u>	<u>390</u>
A Dutch Smith,	260
Five hundred Carpenters, &c.	<u>12,592</u>
	<i>Total, 430. 13,562.</i>

Note,

Note, The men dying in the yards, and their places not being supplied, no yard has at present above two hundred men. The Czar's yard for these three last years has only built brigantines and small craft, he being in the army, and his under master at Petersburgh, but he regularly receives his proportion of timber, by lot, with the rest, nor will he suffer the other yards to make use of his stuff, but on obligation to repay him the next receipts. He allows no foreigners

foreigners to work in his yard, but has the draughts of his ships from the British masters.

Mr. Cosens and Nye have the inspection of the *Dutch Ships*. Dutch ships on the Don, which are most decayed; under them for this service are,

YEARLY SALARY.

	Pounds ster.	Rubles.
Assistant, Henry Bird,	100	120
Prentice, Leonard Chapman,		182
An Italian Calker,		260
Three hundred Carpenters, Calkers and Labourers,	6752	
<hr/>		
Total,	100.	7314.

U

At

At STUPENA, to take care of the old
Dutch Ships:

A Dutch Builder,

Under him a few men taken
out of the other yards.

For building and taking care of
the GALLIES.

Master Builder, a Greek,

His Assistant,

Fifty Carpenters,

Mast-makers and other Artificers.

Master Mast-maker, Henry

Wright,

Two Prentices, at 130 ru-
bles each,

Interpreter,

Eighty Carpenters,

YEARLY SALARY.

Pounds ster. Rubles.

220

300

130

912

100

220

260

18

1423

Master

of RUSSIA. 147

YEARLY SALARY.

Pounds ster. Rubles.

Master Block-maker, Baggs,	100	220
Two Assistants, at 195 rubles each,		260
One hundred Carpenters and Turners.		2190
Master Carver, Mansfeldt,		400
Under Carver, a Pole,		195
Two Assistants, at 195 rubles each,		390
Seventy Men,		1533
Master Calker, H. Atherley,	50	
One hundred and fifty Calkers,		2737
Master Painter, S. Hopkins,	100	
Under Painter, a Russian,		260
Japanner, Brunquass,		325
Joyner, a Swede,		65
Master Boat-builder, a Russ.		260
Master Sail-maker, a Russ.		260
Master Sawyer, a Dutchman,		390
Twenty Men,		219
		All

All the Czar's anchors are made at Dobrove, about an hundred English miles from Veronitz, nearer Mosco.

Master Anchor-smith, R. Halley, 150
 Under Master, Robert Davies, 80
 Lock-smith, Thomas Daniel, 100
 Smiths and Prentices under them.

Purveyors in the Woods.

Yearly Rubles.

A Dutchman, 260
 A Greek, who has been in England, } 260
 chuses good timber,
 A Greek, who sends down any stuff } 260
 that comes to hand,

The Labourers are Peasants, obliged to work in the woods for nothing, which hardship has made several hundreds desert the country.

Dock-

Yearly Rubles.

Dock-builder, Annisseeé Miketowick, a Pole,	{	700
Assistant, a Russian,	{	260
Two hundred Carpenters,	{	3650

Several hundred Labourers, which the neighbouring provinces are obliged to send in by turns, and furnish them with bread and subsistence for so many months.

At OLONITZ, in the Ladoga-Sea.

YEARLY SALARY.

Pounds ster. Rubles.

Master Builder, Rich. Brent,	200	150
Assistant, Edward Hill,	100	120
Two hundred and fifty Carpenters and Labourers,	{	6296

At LADINOPLE.

Master Builder, Brown,	150	100
Two hundred and fifty Carpenters and Labourers	{	6296
Master Boat-builder, Hunt,	150	100
Master Joyner, Evans,	80	The
Master Carver, Mallard,	80	

The communications which the Czar has ordered between the *Don* and *Wolga*, between several rivers, with a prospect of advancing his trade and shipping, are between the *Don*, and *Wolga*.

This passage was first opened between the *Don* and *Wolga*, deavoured to be cut by Sultan Selim, for the better transportation of his army to Astracan and the Caspian-sea against the Persians, in 1560, but his design was defeated by the

the continual irruptions of the Cossacks and Russes. This enterprize lay dead till about 1693, when the Czar employed an engineer, Colonel Breckel, to work on the communication, but being very ill used by Prince Boris Alexewitz Galliczyn, governor of the province, who openly opposed the work, and who would neither furnish men or materials in pursuance of the Czar's orders, the engineer to avoid his persecution fled away to Persia. In 1699, another engineer, Captain Perry, was employed

employed in this service, but met with the same discouragement from Prince Galiczyn as his predecessor, notwithstanding which, the work was carried on with pretty good success till the end of December 1710, when the Czar ordered it to be laid aside till after the war, since he could not so well spare the number of men required in the present juncture. The digging work is about half finished, twelve thousand men and about five years time, would serve to perfect the whole; the channel

was

was to be large and deep enough for ships of eighty guns to pass ; it is to be dug through near three English miles, in which space there is a large mountain, between the rivers Lavala and Camishinka ; the first falls into the Don about one hundred and thirty English miles from the Canal, and the last into the Wolga, about nine English miles from the Canal ; six sluices are begun but none finished, and six more are to be made in the Camishinka : In all from the Lavala to the place where the

Camishinka falls into the Wolga, are sixty-two thousand three hundred English feet.

The second communication *Don and Occa.* is by a canal near the Ivan Ozero, between a branch of the river Don and the Tula, which falls into the Occa: This work is above eight English miles long, and has several stone sluices, though not quite brought to perfection, and is only designed for a passage for large boats.

The

The third communication is between the Wolga Wolga and and the Wolchow, a Ladoga-Sea, river which runs by Novogrod and falls into the Ladoga-sea: This canal is cut near Wisnei Woloczok, I think not above an English mile long, and quite finished, a mathematician was sent down this spring to take an exact survey of it and the upper parts of the two rivers; and another engineer was at the same time dispatched to view the rivers about the Biel Ozora, and

other lakes, to see whether he cannot find a more convenient passage into the Ladoga-sea; the river Wolchow below Novogrod having two or three dangerous falls. This communication seems to be more for curiosity than use, for the frigates now bringing from Casan, have been three years in their passage; they are frozen up the six winter months; during the spring floods for five or six weeks it is scarce possible for them to mount the Wolga against the current; towards the autumn the waters are

are very low, and they are often forced to warp round the points of land and sand banks: This last winter a carpenter was sent to cut down oak for six fifty-gun ships at Casan, the timbers were to be rough hewn there, and transported in flat bottom boats to Petersburgh; by the time these will be on the road, it will be certainly known whether this communication can be of any use to commerce.

These observations on the state of Russia are *Conclusion.* all that occur to me as necessary, till

till the influence of this nation in the present war, and it's share in the general affairs of Europe, makes this country better known to strangers.

with the greatest care, and
notwithstanding the difficulty of
the task, and making effort to
do justice to every side in such
various and difficult subjects
as the present, and the
numerous and important
changes in the Chinese
trade.

ERRATA, page 90, line 3, under the
article of the *Chinese trade*, for two or
three hundred rubles, *Read*, two or
three hundred *thousand* rubles, &c.

ЕРЯЧИКИ
СОВОКУСЫ
СОВОКУСЫ
СОВОКУСЫ





